

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the Application:

1. (Previously Presented) A method for adhering transparent materials, comprising interposing an alkoxide between two materials, at least one of which comprises a medium transparent to ultraviolet light, externally applying a mechanical pressure to said two materials so as to reduce uneven gaps and improve contact between said two materials, using a nitrogen or rare earth gas atmosphere in order to prevent ultraviolet absorption, and irradiating ultraviolet light with a wavelength shorter than 200 nm on the above alkoxide portion, thereby adhering said two materials.

2. (Previously Presented) An adhered quartz glass plate comprising two or more quartz glass plates laterally adhered in accordance with the adhering method as set forth in claim 1 to provide a larger area, with the adhered part being transparent to ultraviolet light at a wavelength shorter than 350 nm.

3. (Currently Amended) A photo-cleaning apparatus comprising a light source part having one or a plurality of excimer lamps(s) or low-pressure mercury lamp(s), by which ultraviolet light is irradiated from said light source to an article to be cleaned and disposed in a cleaning chamber, characterized in that the adhered quartz glass plate as set forth in claim 2 is used for the window between the light source and the cleaning chamber.

4 (Cancelled)

5. (Previously Presented) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein at least one of the two transparent materials is a quartz glass.

6. (Previously Presented) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the alkoxide is a silicon alkoxide, namely tetramethoxysilane (TMOS) and tetraethoxysilane (TEDS).

7. (Previously Presented) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the alkoxide is a metal alkoxide.

8. (New) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said mechanical pressure is applied to both sides of the two materials during the ultraviolet light irradiation.

9. (New) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein adhesion of the two materials is carried out by applying the mechanical pressure without previously applying ultraviolet radiation.

10. (New) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the other material may be common glass or an inorganic common glass.